

TOWN OF COTTAGE GROVE
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
APRIL 12, 2011

- I. The meeting was called to order by Town Chair Kris Hampton at 7:00 P.M. Town Clerk Kim Banigan recorded the minutes, and Attorney Connie Anderson provided legal counsel. A list of other attendees is available in the Town Clerk's Office. There were 25 residents present.
- II. Flag Pledge
- III. The minutes of last year's Annual Town Meeting were available in printed form. There was no reading of the minutes at the meeting. **MOTION** by Silvin Kurt/Mike DuPlayee to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2010 Annual Town Meeting as printed. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE (25-0).**
- IV. Additions to agenda by Electors:
 - Silvin Kurt suggested a discussion on selling the old Town Garage
 - Beverly Burmester suggested an update on the talks about merging with the Village, but Hampton said there has only been one introductory meeting of the committee.
- V. Presentation of the 2010 Annual Town Financial Report: The 2010 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures was printed on the back of the agenda. The Clerk stated the total revenues, total expenditures, and net change in fund balances, and suggested those interested in more detail could find it in the budget vs. actual report in the Annual Report and Newsletter. **MOTION** by Steve Anders/Steve Querin-Schultz to approve as printed. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE (25-0).**
- VI. "Stormwater Pollution Prevention/Rain Gardens", presented by Chuck Nahn, Nahn and Associates, LLC.: Nahn explained that public education is one of the requirements of the Town's permit to discharge stormwater. Other requirements include gathering public input, detection and elimination of illicit discharge, control of construction and post construction pollution, and a pollution prevention plan for town functions (e.g. salt spreading, etc.).

Nahn suggested that rain gardens are something that residents can do to prevent stormwater pollution. He presented 10 steps to creating a rain garden, including site and plant selection and preparation. He referred people to myfairlakes.com for more information, including Plant Dane!, a cost sharing program for purchasing plants. Nahn also talked about rain barrels, which he said work well in conjunction with a rain garden to catch the overflow.
- VII. Discuss effects of the State Budget on the Town of Cottage Grove: Hampton said that current estimates show the Town of Cottage Grove will lose 50% of its shared revenue and 7% of transportation aids in 2012, which amounts to roughly \$45,000. Elimination of the recycling grant would mean another \$11,500 reduction in revenue. As the Town does not have any union employees, participate in the Wisconsin Retirement System, or offer health insurance (except for the police department, which may be exempt) there is no opportunity to make up the difference with employee contributions toward benefits. With levy increases limited to 0% or the rate of growth, which will be minimal, the Town Board will face a very difficult task in planning the 2012 budget this fall.
- VIII. Update on new roof for Flynn Hall: Hampton reported that the roof is being replaced right now. Two layers of asphalt shingles and cedar shakes were removed. New underlayment, felt, and 30 year asphalt shingles are being installed, along with soffits, covered gutters and

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new downspouts. The fundraiser last year put on by the Lions Club and Historical Society raised almost the entire cost of the project.

- IX. Set date for next year's Annual Town Meeting: **MOTION** by Mike DuPlayee/Silvin Kurt to hold the next Annual Town Meeting on Tuesday, April 10, 2012 at 7:00 P.M. at the Town Hall. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE 25-0.**
- X. Other Business:
- A. Sale of old Town Garage at 4091 County Road N: The garage was built in 1947, and is leased to Viney Parts & Service, Inc. through May of 2012 at ~\$1,400 per month. Value was estimated at \$240,000 3-4 years ago. On the plus side, the rent is revenue to the Town, however the Town is responsible for all maintenance, and the roof and furnace are both over 20 years old. At one time there were underground fuel tanks on the site. Selling the property would probably require testing for and cleaning up any contamination first. **MOTION** by Cindy Lease/Lisa Hopwood-Newton to get a cost vs. benefits analysis of continuing to rent vs. selling, including any remediation steps that might be required, for the next Annual Meeting. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE 25-0.**
- B. Cindy Lease asked what had become of the study authorized at the Annual Meeting in 2010 to create a CDA and perform a feasibility study for an agribusiness park at the corner of US Highway 12 & 18 and County Road N. Hampton said that the Town Board had decided against proceeding. The area is still in designated as future agribusiness in the comprehensive plan, but the Town is not pursuing being the developer.
- XI. Adjournment: **MOTION** by Cindy Lease/Kristi Williams to adjourn. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE 25-0.** The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 P.M.

Kim Banigan
Clerk

Approved 4-10-2012